CLAIMS

1 1. A method in a computer system for generating transaction price data for
2 an item, the method comprising:
3 receiving a selection of an item classification;
4 identifying attributes associated with the selected item classification;
5 providing a display of an indication of the identified attributes;
6 receiving an input value for one or more the identified attributes;
7 retrieving records of transactions for items that are classified within the
8 selected item classification and that match the received input value of the one or more
9 identified attributes; and
10 analyzing the retrieved records to generate transaction price data for the item.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the transaction price data includes a
2 suggested bid price in an auction for an item.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the records of transactions include
2 records for both fixed-price sale and auction transactions.

1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein one of the attributes relates to duration
2 of a transaction.

1 5. The method of claim 1 including receiving a specification of attributes
2 to serve as x and y coordinates for a graph of the transaction price data.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving of the selection of an item
2 classification includes browsing through a browse category organization.

1   7.   The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving of the selection of an item

2 includes receiving a specification of keywords and identifying an item classification that

3 matches the specified keywords.

1   8.   The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving of the selection of an item

2 classification includes browsing through an item classification organization.

1   9.   The method of claim 1 wherein the selected item classification is not a

2 leaf classification of an item classification hierarchy.

1   10.   The method of claim 1 wherein the item classifications are not

2 hierarchical.

1   11.   A computer-readable medium containing a data structure, the data

2 structure comprising:

3   an organization of item classifications of items; and

4   for each item classification in the organization, an indication of attributes

5 associated with the item classification.

1   12.   The computer-readable medium of claim 11 wherein the item

2 classifications are hierarchically organized.

1   13.   The computer-readable medium of claim 11 including

2   an organization of browse categories wherein each browse category is mapped

3 to an item classification.

1   14.   The computer-readable medium of claim 13 wherein the item

2 classifications and browse categories are hierarchically organized.

1   15.   A method in a computer system for receiving a specification of
2   attributes relating to an item that is to be the subject of a transaction, the method comprising:
3   providing an association of attributes to item classifications, wherein each item
4   classification may be associated with a set of item-specific attributes;
5   receiving a selection of an item classification;
6   identifying the item-specific attributes associated with the selected item
7   classification; and
8   providing a display of an indication of the identified item-specific attributes.

1   16.   The method of claim 15 wherein the item classifications are within an
2   item classification hierarchy.

1   17.   The method of claim 15 wherein the item classification is not a leaf
2   classification of an item classification hierarchy.

1   18.   The method of claim 15 wherein the receiving of the selection includes
2   browsing through a browse category hierarchy.

1   19.   The method of claim 15 wherein the transaction is auction-related.

1   20.   A method in a computer system for providing price data, the method
2   comprising:
3   receiving a selection of transactions;
4   sending a request to provide transaction price data for the selected transactions;
5   receiving the requested transaction price data, wherein the received transaction
6   price data is derived from the selected transactions; and
7   displaying the received transaction price data.

21.   The method of claim 20 wherein the transactions are on-line.

22.   The method of claim 20 wherein the transactions are auctions.

23.   The method of claim 22 wherein the transaction price data includes a suggested bid price in an auction for an item.

24.   The method of claim 23 wherein the suggested bid price is a suggested minimum bid price.

25.   The method of claim 23 wherein the suggested bid price is a suggested maximum bid price.

26.   The method of claim 22 wherein transactions include fixed-price sale transactions.

27.   The method of claim 22 wherein the transaction price data includes an average sale price.

28.   The method of claim 22 wherein the transaction price data includes an median sale price.

29.   The method of claim 22 wherein the transaction price data includes a mean sale price.

30.   The method of claim 22 wherein the transaction price data includes mode sale price.

1   31.   The method of claim 22 wherein the transaction price data includes an

2 maximum sale price.

1   32.   The method of claim 22 wherein the transaction price data includes an

2 minimum sale price.

1   33.   The method of claim 22 wherein the transaction price data includes a

2 range of sale price data.

1   34.   The method of claim 22 including displaying a graph of the transaction

2 price data.

1   35.   The method of claim 34 including in response to selection of a point on

2 the displayed graph, displaying information describing one or more transactions associated

3 with that point.

1   36.   The method of claim 22 wherein the received selection includes

2 keywords.

1   37.   The method of claim 22 wherein the received selection includes a

2 selection of an item classification.

1   38.   A method in a computer system for specifying attributes relating to an

2 item, the method comprising:

3   receiving a selection of an item classification;

4   sending an indication of the selected item classification;

5   after sending the indication, receiving an indication of an item-specific attribute

6 that is associated with the selected item classification; and

7   displaying an indication of the item-specific attribute.

1   39.   The method of claim 38 wherein the item classifications are within an
2 item classification hierarchy.

1   40.   The method of claim 38 wherein the item classification is not a leaf
2 classification of an item classification hierarchy.

1   41.   The method of claim 38 wherein the receiving of the selection includes
2 browsing through a browse category hierarchy.

1   42.   The method of claim 38 wherein the classifications are classifications of
2 auctions.

1   43.   The method of claim 38 wherein the item classifications are not
2 hierarchically related.

1   44.   A method in a computer system for providing price data relating to on-
2 line auctions, the method comprising:
3   receiving a selection of auctions;
4   generating price data based on analysis of the selected auctions; and
5   providing the generated price data price data to assist a user in auction related
6 activity.

1   45.   The method of claim 44 wherein the auction related activity is bidding
2 at an auction.

1   46.   The method of claim 44 wherein the auction related activity is setting a
2 minimum bid price.

1   47.   The method of claim 44 wherein the price data includes a suggested bid
2 price.

1   48.   The method of claim 47 wherein the suggested bid price is a suggested
2 minimum bid price.

1   49.   The method of claim 47 wherein the suggested bid price is a suggested
2 maximum bid price.

1   50.   The method of claim 44 wherein the price data includes an average sale
2 price.

1   51.   The method of claim 44 wherein the price data includes an median sale
2 price.

1   52.   The method of claim 44 wherein the price data includes a mean sale
2 price.

1   53.   The method of claim 44 wherein the price data includes mode sale price.

1   54.   The method of claim 44 wherein the price data includes an maximum
2 sale price.

1   55.   The method of claim 44 wherein the price data includes an minimum
2 sale price.

1   56.   The method of claim 44 wherein the price data includes a range of sale
2 price data.

57. The method of claim 44 including providing a graph of the price data.

58. The method of claim 44 including in response to selection of a point on the graph, providing information describing one or more auctions associated with that point.

59. The method of claim 44 wherein the received selection includes keywords.

60. The method of claim 44 wherein the received selection includes a selection of an item classification.

61. A computer-readable medium containing instructions for causing a computer system to perform the method of claim 44.